

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A superior-limb arteriostenosis evaluating apparatus, comprising:

a superior-limb pulse-wave detecting device which detects a superior-limb pulse wave produced from an artery of at least one of a left superior limb and a right superior limb of a living subject;

an inferior-limb pulse-wave detecting device which detects an inferior-limb pulse wave produced from an artery of at least one of a left inferior limb and a right inferior limb of the subject; and

an arteriostenosis judging means for judging whether the artery of said at least one of the left and right superior limbs has an arteriostenosis, based on a phase difference between the superior-limb pulse wave detected by the superior-limb pulse-wave detecting device and the inferior-limb pulse wave detected by the inferior-limb pulse-wave detecting device.

2. A superior-limb arteriostenosis evaluating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the arteriostenosis judging means comprises:

a phase-difference calculating means for calculating the phase difference between the superior-limb pulse wave detected by the superior-limb pulse-wave detecting device and the inferior-limb pulse wave detected by the inferior-limb

pulse-wave detecting device; and

a phase-difference judging means for judging whether the phase difference calculated by the phase-difference calculating means is smaller than a reference value, and judging that the artery of said at least one of the left and right superior limbs has said arteriostenosis, when it is judged that the phase difference calculated by the phase-difference calculating means is smaller than the reference value.

3. A superior-limb arteriostenosis evaluating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the inferior-limb pulse-wave detecting device detects a left-inferior-limb pulse wave produced from an artery of the left inferior limb and a right-inferior-limb pulse wave produced from an artery of the right inferior limb, wherein the arteriostenosis judging means comprises:

a pulse-wave selecting means for selecting one of the left-inferior-limb pulse wave and the right-inferior-limb pulse wave that has a faster phase than a phase of the other inferior-limb pulse wave; and

means for judging whether the artery of said at least one of the left and right superior limbs has said arteriostenosis, based on the phase difference between the superior-limb pulse wave detected by the superior-limb pulse-wave detecting device and said one inferior-limb pulse wave selected by the pulse-wave selecting means.

4. A superior-limb arteriostenosis evaluating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the arteriostenosis judging means judges whether the artery of said at least one of the left and right superior limbs has said arteriostenosis, based on the phase difference between a rising point of the superior-limb pulse wave detected by the superior-limb pulse-wave detecting device and a rising point of the inferior-limb pulse wave detected by the inferior-limb pulse-wave detecting device.

5. A superior-limb arteriostenosis evaluating apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an indication outputting means for outputting, when the arteriostenosis judging means judges that the artery of said at least one of the left and right superior limbs has said arteriostenosis, an indication indicating that the artery of said at least one of the left and right superior limbs has said arteriostenosis.

6. A superior-limb arteriostenosis evaluating apparatus, comprising:

a superior-limb pulse-wave detecting device which detects a superior-limb pulse wave produced from an artery of at least one of a left superior limb and a right superior limb of a living subject;

an inferior-limb pulse-wave detecting device which detects an inferior-limb pulse wave produced from an artery of at least one of a left inferior limb and a right inferior limb of the subject; and

an arteriostenosis judging device which judges whether the artery of said at least one of the left and right superior limbs has an arteriostenosis, based on a phase difference between the superior-limb pulse wave detected by the superior-limb pulse-wave detecting device and the inferior-limb pulse wave detected by the inferior-limb pulse-wave detecting device.